

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. – 17.

18. (Original) A method of resecting a distal portion of a femur, comprising:
forming an incision relative to a first condyle of the femur;
forming a pilot bore relative to the first condyle;
reaming the first condyle to form a reamed portion; and
resecting a second condyle of the femur with a saw that is guided relative to the reamed portion;
wherein reaming the first condyle and the second condyle is performed substantially through the incision.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising:
disposing a positioning rod relative to the femur;
disposing a pilot bore forming guide with said positioning rod;
wherein forming a pilot bore includes forming a pilot bore with said pilot bore forming guide.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said pilot bore guide includes a selected pattern of pilot bore guide sections such that one of a plurality of pilot bores may be formed in the femur with a single positioning of said pilot bore guide.

21. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising:
positioning a reamer guide in said pilot bore;
wherein reaming the first condyle includes positioning a reamer relative to
said reamer guide and reaming the first condyle.

22. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising positioning a tool
guide relative to said reamed portion through said incision;
wherein resecting a second condyle includes guiding a tool with said tool
guide to resect the second condyle.

23. – 26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method of reaming a selected bone portion comprising:

selecting a first resection instrument;

~~forming a first resected~~ resecting a first portion by resecting a first portion of the selected bone portion a first amount with the first resection instrument; and

selecting a second resection instrument; and

resecting a second portion of the selected bone portion a second amount generally equivalent to said first amount using said first resected portion and the second resection instrument [[:]]

~~wherein said resecting a second portion includes resecting a generally equivalent portion to said first resected portion.~~

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein forming said first resected portion includes resecting a selected condyle of a femur.

29. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein forming said first resected portion includes resecting a selected condyle of a femur through a small incision such that access is minimized initially to the first condyle.

30. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein resecting said second portion includes guiding an instrument generally with said first resected portion such that said second portion is substantially equivalent to said first resected portion.

31. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein forming a first resected portion includes:

positioning a reaming guide relative to said first portion of the selected bone portion; and

guiding a reamer with said reaming guide to form said first resected portion.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein resecting a second portion includes:

positioning a tool guide relative to said first resected portion to guide an instrument for resecting said second portion.

33. (New) A method of performing a less invasive bone resection procedure of a selected bone portion comprising:

forming an incision relative to the selected bone portion;

guiding a drill bit to form a bore with the drill bit;

reaming a first portion of the selected bone portion to form a reamed section; and

guiding a saw blade to resect a second portion of the bone portion relative to the reamed section.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein said forming an incision includes forming an incision about 1 cm to about 10 cm in length.

35. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein said selected bone portion is a condyle of a femur.

36. (New) The method of claim 33, further comprising:

forming a bore in the selected bone portion prior to guiding the drill bit;

disposing a spigot in the bore formed in the selected bone portion; and

wherein reaming a selected portion includes reaming the selected bone portion by guiding the reamer with the spigot.

37. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the formed incision is the only incision used to access the selected bone portion to ream the first portion and resect the second portion.

38. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein selecting the first resection instrument includes selecting a reamer instrument including a reamer head operable to grind the first amount.

39. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein selecting the second resection instrument includes selecting a saw operable to cut the selected bone portion to remove the second amount.

40. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the first resection instrument is different than the second resection instrument.

41. (New) A method of performing a bone resection procedure of a selected bone portion comprising:

reaming a first portion of the selected bone portion to form a reamed section;

positioning a saw guide relative to the reamed section; and

guiding a saw blade with the positioned saw guide to resect a second portion of the bone portion relative to the reamed section.

42. (New) The method of Claim 41, further comprising:

forming an incision relative to the selected bone portion, wherein reaming a first portion and guiding the saw blade both occur through the formed incision.

43. (New) The method of Claim 41, further comprising:

guiding a drill bit to form a bore with the drill bit;

positioning a spigot in the bore; and

guiding a reamer with the spigot to ream the first portion.

44. (New) The method of Claim 43, further comprising:

interconnecting the saw guide with the bone portion via the bore.

45. (New) The method of Claim 41, wherein the first bone portion is a first condyle of a femur and the second bone portion is a second condyle of the femur.

46. (New) The method of Claim 41, wherein the second portion of the bone is resected only with the saw blade.